

Amendments to the Abstract:

In an article support system including a housing with a base defining a cavity, a suction disc supported in the cavity so as to delimit the cavity, and ~~means~~ a mechanism for actuating the suction disc so as to create a vacuum between the suction disc and a smooth support surface, the housing includes at its end opposite the base an article support plate with engagement claws for ~~selectively engaging one of an article and an adapter plate having means for~~ engaging a particular article, and a mounting plate is provided ~~which has at one side means for connection to a support surface and, at the other side, which has~~ a smooth surface for mounting the device selectively thereon by way of the suction disc or on a clamp support plate ~~engaging at one side a rim of the base and provided with a clamping means for mechanically engaging the base and having at the other side means for mounting the clamp support plate to a support surface.~~